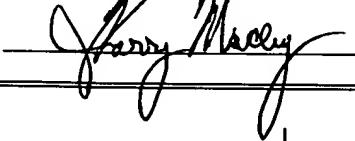


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA, 22313, on June 23, 2004.


Harry Macey

In re Application of:

Nguyen, et al.

Serial No.: 09/828,335

Filing Date: April 5, 2001

Title: MULTIPLE LOOP TISSUE
CONNECTOR APPARATUS AND
METHODS

Examiner: U.Ho

Group Art Unit: 3731

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action dated December 23, 2003 for which a three month extension request is being filed herewith to extend the period for response from March 23, 2004 to June 23, 2004. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

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